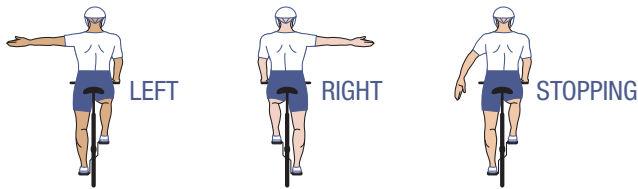
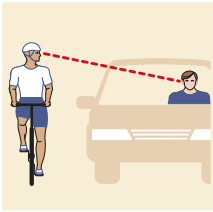


# Safe Communication

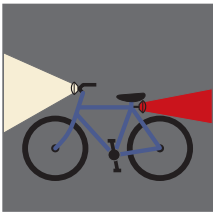


**Use hand signals** so that drivers know where you're going. Signal all your turns and stops ahead of time. Also, before turning, look over your shoulder for any traffic. Check and only move when it's safe.



## Make eye contact.

Confirming eye contact with motorists helps them know that you're on the road.



## See. Be seen. Be heard.

Use lights at night or when visibility is poor. A white headlight and rear red reflector are required by law; a rear red light is recommended. Flashing lights are especially effective.

Use bike reflectors, reflective clothing and a bell. (see panel at right)



**Never use earphones** because you won't be able to hear what's going on around you. Using earphones or cellphones while bicycling increases the risk of being in a crash.

# Safe Equipment

**Helmets** reduce the risk of head injuries and death.

To make sure your helmet fits correctly, put it on and use the "eyes, ears, mouth" test:

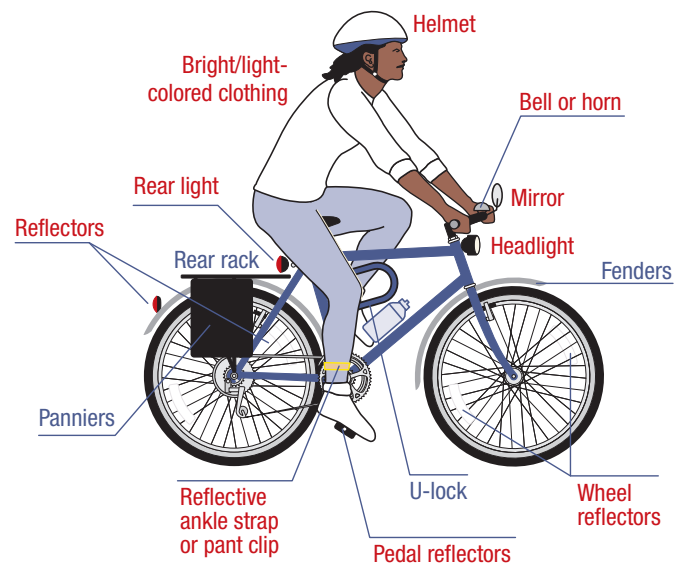
**Eyes:** When you look up, you should see the front rim. If not, your helmet won't protect your forehead.

**Ears:** The side straps should come to a "V" just below each ear.

**Mouth:** When you open your mouth wide, you should feel the helmet push down on your head. If your helmet doesn't pass the test, adjust its buckles.

Wear bright clothing and use lights, reflectors, a bell and a mirror to be seen and be heard.

Consider using the other equipment illustrated below to **make your ride safer** and more comfortable.



# Safe Parking

**Most bicycle thefts are due to unlocked or improperly locked bikes. Following these tips will help prevent your bike from being stolen.**

**Never** leave your bike unlocked—not even for a second.

**Take easily removable parts with you**, such as detachable lights. A seat post can be a target for thieves—remove it if you leave your bike parked outside for long periods, or swap your quick-release seatpost for a regular bolt.

**Record your bicycle's serial number** and take a picture of your bicycle, and keep them in a safe place.

**Mark your bicycle with an Operation ID (OPID) Number.** Obtain an OPID number free from your police precinct or by calling 612-673-2749.

**Report missing bikes** to the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD) immediately by dialing **311**. If you see a theft in progress, call **911**.

**Call the MPD's Property and Evidence Warehouse** (612-673-5665) to see if your bicycle has been recovered.

**Always use a high-quality U-lock or chain.** Low-quality locks or cables can be easily cut. For added security, use both.

**Always lock the frame and front wheel** to either a rack or sign pole (see illustration ①), but not to parking meters, streetlight or stoplight poles, handrails or trees. For extra security, remove the front wheel and lock it with the frame and rear wheel (see illustration ②).

